

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02819 010021Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 L-03 CPR-01 INR-07 SS-15
/052 W

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R 312344Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5118
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP,UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPERTY INTERESTS IN NEW YORK

REF: USUN 1269 AND STATE 159746

1. WE CONVEYED INFORMATION CONTAINED IN DEPARTMENT'S MESSAGE TO NIKOLAI FIRYUBIN OF SMUN AT MEETING ON AUG 30.
2. FIRYUBIN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ADVANCE AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE WITH REGARD TO ERECTING SIX CABINS ON UPPER BROOKVILLE PROPERTY. HE STATED THAT ZONING VARIANCE WOULD HAVE TO BE OBTAINED FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER USG WOULD BE PREPARED TO ASSIST IN CONNECTION WITH OBTAINING VARIANCE. WE ADVISED FIRYUBIN THAT ACTION TO OBTAIN VARIANCE WOULD OF COURSE HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY LAW FIRM REPRESENTING SOVIET MISSION. WE SAID HOWEVER THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO RENDER MINIMAL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE.
3. WE THEN HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION ABOUT SOVIET INTENTION TO ERECT ANOTHER APARTMENT HOUSE ON RIVERDALE PROPERTY.

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FIRYUBIN STATED THAT IN HIS VIEW SOVIET WERE DESIROUS OF BRINGING STAFF WHO PRESENTLY RENT QUARTERS IN CITY INTO RIVERDALE COMPLEX. HE ALLUDED TO WHAT HE CALLED CRITICAL SECURITY SITUATION IN NEW YORK AND STATED SOVIET STAFF MEMBERS FELT SAFER IN RIVERDALE. HE STATED THAT ZONING PROBLEM ALSO EXISTED IN RIVERDALE, AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD SOVIETS WOULD NEED VARIANCE TO ERECT NEW HIGH

RISE IN COMPLEX. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST THAT ANY PROPOSAL BE MADE FAR IN ADVANCE OF SIGNING OF CONTRACTS OR MAKING COMMITMENTS TO US ARCHITECTS OR CONTRACTORS. HE SAID HIS CONCERN WAS BASED ON WELL KNOWN PROBLEM SOVIET DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS HAVE WITH SOVIET MINISTRY OF FINANCE IN MOSCOW. THIS ORGANIZATION, HE SAID, WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH, WHICH MADE ADVANCE PLANNING DIFFICULT.

4. FIRYUBIN CONFIRMED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL OF PROJECTS MUST BE MADE BY OFFICIAL NOTE. HE ALSO TOOK NOTE OF FACT THAT SINCE OTHER SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS WILL OBVIOUSLY BE INVOLVED IN ANY NEW RIVERDALE VENTURE, THAT SUBJECT WOULD NEED TO BE DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN MEMBERS OF SOVIET EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

5. WE ARE CHECKING ON ZONING REGULATIONS IN RIVERDALE AND WILL ADVISE ASAP OF OUR FINDINGS.
LEONARD

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